

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 16698 011549Z

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ACTION A-01

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 16698

DEPARTMENT FOR "A" AND WHITE HOUSE FOR RUSTAND/HENKEL

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: OVIP (FORD, GERALD R.)

SUBJ: PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO VLADIVOSTOK

REF: A. MOSCOW 16636 B. MOSOW 16576

1. AS REPORTED REF A, CURRENT SOVIET "OFFICIAL POSITION" IS THAT NUMBER OF EMBASSY PERSONNEL TO BE ALLOWED TO TRAVEL TO VLADIVOSTOK AREA FOR SUPPORT OF PRESIDENTIAL VISIT WILL BE LIMITED TO THREE TO FIVE PERSONS. WE CONSIDER THIS HIGHLY UNREASONABLE AND HAVE INFORMED THE SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT THIS WILL SEVERELY LIMIT OUR ABILITY TO FACILITATE AND BACKUP THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT. WE WOULD HOPE THE SOVIETS WILL EVENTUALLY SHOW SOME FLEXIBILITY IN THIS REGARD. IN ANY CASE, IT IS OBVIOUS THAT NUMBER OF EMBASSY PERSONNEL WHICH SOVIETS WILL ALLOW TO PROCEED TO VLADIVOSTOK AREA WILL BE FAR LESS THAN WE WOULD LIKE.

2. SOVIETS STICK TO CURRENT LIMITATIONS, OUR ABILITY TO ASSIST PRE-ADVANCE AND ADVANCE TEAMS, AS WELL AS PRESIDENTIAL PARTY ITSELF, IN LOGISTICS AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS WILL BE REDUCED TO ALMOST ZERO. ADVANCE PARTY FOR PLANNING PURPOSES SHOULD THUS BE READY TO BRING WITH IT NECESSARY SUPPLIES AND PERSONNEL WHICH EMBASSY IN ORDINARY COURSE OF EVENTS WOULD BE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 16698 011549Z

PROVIDING.

3. SHOULD SOVIETS INSIST THAT NO MORE THAN FIVE EMBASSY PERSONNEL BE ASSIGNED TO VLADIVOSTOK TO ASSIST ADVANCE PARTY, BASED ON OUR PAST EXPERIENCE WE WOULD ASSUME THAT MOST USEFUL PEOPLE WOULD BE WORKING LEVEL RUSSIAN-SPEAKING OFFICERS FAMILIAR WITH DEALING WITH SOVIET BUREAUCRACY. FOR CONTINGENCY PURPOSES, WE ARE THEREFORE PLANNING TO SEND TWO SUCH OFFICERS FOR PROTOCOL, SCHEDULING, PROGRAM, AND GENERAL LIAISON WITH SOVIETS AT MEETING SITE, TWO ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS TO ASSIST ON LOGISTICS AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS, AND ONE MILITARY OFFICER PRINCIPALLY TO ASSIST IN LIAISON WITH SOVIETS ON FLIGHT CLEARANCES, AIRPORT SERVICES AND POSSIBLE HELICOPTER SHUTTLE PROBLEMS. WOULD APPRECIATE ADVANCE TEAM'S VIEWS AS TO WHETHER ABOVE SATISFACTORY.

4. PRE-ADVANCE AND ADVANCE TEAMS SHOULD KEEP IN MIND THAT UNLESS SOVIETS CHANGE CURRENT PLANS, WE WILL BE UNABLE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

(A) HOSPITALITY/CONTROL ROOM: WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO OPERATE SUCH A FACILITY AS WOULD NORMALLY BE OUR PRACTICE. IN ANY CASE, TRANSPORTATION FROM MOSCOW VIA COMMERCIAL AIRLINE WOULD BE DIFFICULT AND EXPENSIVE. AIRFREIGHT FROM MOSCOW TO VLADIVOSTOK IS ABOUT \$.60 A POUND. ADVANCE PARTY SHOULD, THEREFORE, PLAN TO BRING ADEQUATE SUPPLIES OF TOILETRIES, BEVERAGES, CIGARETTES, ETC.

(B) SECRETARIAL ASSISTANCE: SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF SECRETARIS SHOULD BE BROUGHT INTO USSR WITH PARTY.

(C) MARINE GUARDS: WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO FURNISH MARINE GUARDS OR ANY OTHER PERSONNEL TO MAINTAIN NORMAL SECURITY. AGAIN, WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT SECURITY PERSONNEL ARRIVE WITH PRE-ADVANCE TEAM AND REMAIN TILL END OF VISIT.

5. FURTHER TO REF B, NO MATTER HOW COOPERATIVE SOVIETS WERE, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 16698 011549Z

WE WOULD STILL FACE ENOURMOUS LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS IN BACKUP VLADIVOSTOK MEETING SITE. THEREFORE, BELIEVE WHITE HOUSE AND DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE FOCUSING ON FOLLOWING PROBLEMS:

(A) OFFICE SUPPLIES: IN VIEW OF TRANSPORTATION DIFFICULTIES AND COSTS, WE RECOMMEND THAT ADVANCE PARTY BRING OFFICE SUPPLIES WITH IT, INCLUDING

OFFICE MACHINES SUCH AS TYPEWRITERS AND XEROX.
WE ARE TRYING TO OBTAIN ELECTRICITY SUPPLY
INFORMATION AND AS SOON AS WE HAVE IT WILL LET YOU
KNOW REGARDING NEED FOR TRANSFORMERS.

(B) TRANSPORTATION: ALTHOUGH WE STILL DO NOT KNOW
LAYOUT WITH RESPECT TO TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN
GUEST HOUSES AND NEAREST AIRPORT, IT SEEMS LIKELY
THAT HELICOPTER SHUTTLE SERVICE WILL BE NECESSARY
FOR SUPPLIES AND PERSONNEL. ASSUME YOU WILL BE
FLYING IN HELICOPTER OR SEVERAL HELICOPTERS FOR
USE OF PRESIDENT DURING VISIT. PLEASE ADVISE.

(C) TELECOMMUNICATIONS: WILL WHITE HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS
ALSO HANDLE STATE COMMUNICATIONS, OR DOES
DEPARTMENT PLAN TO ESTABLISH MOBILE "CAN DO" PACKAGE
AT MEETING SITE? IF SO, SUGGEST CIRCUITS GO THROUGH
MOSCOW AS WELL. AT THIS POINT, HOWEVER, WE DO NOT
HAVE ASSURANCES OF EITHER TELEX OR TELEPHONE LINES
FROM MEETING SITE TO MOSCOW. WE SHOULD, OF COURSE,
GIVE SOVIETS PRECISE REQUIREMENTS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

6. EVEN IF SOVIETS PROVE INFLEXIBLE ON AMOUNT OF EMBASSY
PERSONNEL TO SUPPORT PRE-ADVANCE AND ADVANCE
PARTIES, WE WOULD HOPE THAT THEY WOULD ALLOW US TO
ASSIGN A CONSIDERABLY EXPANDED STAFF TO WORK WITH
PRESIDENTIAL PARTY ON SUCH MATTERS AS DEALING WITH
THE PRESS, LOGISTICS AND GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.
WE FEEL WE HAVE USEFUL ROLE TO PLAY IN THIS REGARD
AND THAT IF SOVIETS REMAIN STIFF-NECKED, CONSIDERATION
SHOULD BE GIVEN TO POSSIBILITY OF DESIGNATING EMBASSY
PERSONNEL DIRECTLY AS MEMBERS OF SUPPORT STAFF FOR
PRESIDENTIAL VISIT. SUCH PERSONNEL, IF DESIRED,
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 MOSCOW 16698 011549Z

COULD FLY FROM MOSCOW VIA COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT AND JOIN
PRESIDENT'S PARTY IN TOKYO.

7. WOULD APPRCIATE REACTION TO ABOVE ASAP.
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